

1.

The Slight Risk calculation on the topographic factor does not seem to calculate according to your directions. According to the definition you assigned to slight risk, I assume a confinement area which is 150 feet away from a water body and at a 0.5 % slope should put the benchmark points into the slight risk category. However, the Moderate risk category is automatically assigned until the distance entered = 151 feet.

Slight Risk: Confinement area is located \geq 100 feet away from water body and the topographic factor is < 1 and current management practices negatively impact water quality.					
Evidence of Direct discharge (Y/N):			y		
Distance from confinement area to water body:			150 ft		
Slope from confinement area to water body:			0.5%		
Topographic Factor:			0.103		
Level of Risk	Base Points	2 * BPoints	Benchmark	Planned Level of Improvement	Environmental Points
Significant	0	0			
Moderate	2500	5000	5000		
Slight	3750	7500			
Negligible	5000	10000			
		Total:	5000	0	0

2.

In the following section, I believe the instructions should be clarified. In the example below, for an applicant who already has a completely installed Waste Storage Facility, a 0 was entered into the 'Previously addressed to Standards (%)' column since the directions say *"if practice is entirely completed to standards, enter a 0 in Previously Addressed to Standards column"*. This practice received 300 environmental points even though that practice will not be improved through EQIP. I think you may intend the directions to say: *"If a new practice is needed and will be completed to NRCS standards, enter a 0 in Previously Addressed to Standards column"*. I would suggest making this change for clarification. The way it is presently written can be interpreted differently than is most likely intended.

Instructions: Input components or percent of components completed in Previously Addressed to Standards column.

If practice is not needed, don't populate Previously Addressed to Standards column.

if practice is entirely completed to standards, enter a 0 in Previously Addressed to Standards column.

Components or percent of components that will be addressed appear in Planned column.

Input estimate of cost share costs.

Waste Management Components	Weight of Practice	Previously Addressed to Standards (%)	Remainder Planned to Meet RMS (%)	Environmental Points	CPPE	Cost Share
Heavy Use Area Runoff	1		0%	300	Slight	
Milkhouse Waste	1		0%			
Nutrient Management	4		0%			
Roof Runoff	1		0%			
Silage Leachate	1		0%			
Waste Storage Facility	2	0%	100%			
Total:	10	0.0%	20.0%	300	Slight	\$0

2.

Caution on the Phosphorous Production Calculator sheet:

I can not determine why, but when using this sheet, several instances occurred where the proper calculation did not result in fields D32, D38, and D41. I could not find how this problem gets triggered, but users should always check that the total in D41 is the number it should be. It seemed to trigger very randomly and for no known reason.

4.

I do not understand the logic in the section [c. Surface water quality benefits due to reduced sediment load from cropland](#). If a farmer needs to apply an extremely small amount of filter strip or riparian forest buffer, the environmental points awarded are the same.

In the examples provided below, it is difficult to imagine that the environmental benefits provided by each producer would be the same, therefore the awarded environmental points should not be the same.

Example 1		Extent Needed	Planned	Environmental Points
Filter Strip (Enter Acres)		0.1	0.1	
Riparian Buffer (Enter Acres)				
	Total:	0.1	0.1	1500

Example 2		Extent Needed	Planned	Environmental Points
Filter Strip (Enter Acres)		5	5	
Riparian Buffer (Enter Acres)		8	8	
	Total:	13	13	1500